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JOHN W. WARNER
VIRGINIA

ACTION
is assigned to
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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

March 9, 1979

FROM: JOE TEAGUE

Respectfully referred to:

The Honorable Cyrus Vance
Department of State
Washington, D. C. 20520

RE: REGARDING CONSTITUENT SUGGESTION FOR DISPOSITION OF THE BODIES OF THE VICTIMS OF THE TRAGEDY IN GUYANA.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY [signature] DATE 2/27/87
E.O. ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
CLASSIFIED EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED RELEASABLE ☒
RELEASE DENIED ☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

Your consideration of the attached correspondence from a constituent will be appreciated. Your findings and views, in duplicate form, along with return of the enclosures, are requested.

Thank you for your cooperation.

John W. Warner

U.S.S.

JWW:nls

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
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FAC
DOCUMENT ANALYSIS

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JOSEPH W. TEAGUE
FUNERAL SERVICE
P.O. BOX 3414 • 909 WEST MAIN STREET • CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA 22903 • 804/977-0005
JOSEPH W. TEAGUE
MARY J. TEAGUE
DIRECTORS

JAN 31

January 27, 1979

Honorable John Warner
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Warner:

I have enclosed a copy of my telegram to the Department of State concerning my disgust with their handling of the Guyana victims in regard to disposition.

There is no simple solution to this complex problem; but the very idea of cemeteries bidding for the interment of those bodies is as sickening as the massacre itself.

I still think my suggestion of mass burial, in caskets of course, with proper eulogy, on the Dover Air Force Base would be the proper solution. A proper memorial could be erected to all persons there in one place.

This could be established by Executive Order since a Federal Statute is time consuming. These bodies need to be buried and now.

I would appreciate your assistance in bringing this unfortunate situation to a proper termination.

Kindest regards,

Joe Teague

Joe Teague, President
Virginia Funeral Directors, Assoc.

MJT
Enclosure

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JOSEPH W. TEAGUE
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DIRECTORS

Hodding Carter, III
Assistant Secretary of State
Department of State
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Carter:

I find the State Department's idea of receiving bids to bury the Guyana massacre unidentified, now casketed and stored at Dover Air Force Base, appalling and unbelievable. Every person is entitled to a decent burial, but by bid basis!!

I would suggest a federal statute or Executive order that would allow all unclaimed and unidentified bodies be buried on the Dover Air Force Base, as it would require less than one acre of space, since the officials of the State of Delaware are less than co-operative for the burial in that state.

But please, for human dignity, do not bury these remains over the Eastern Seaboard on a bid basis. I have spoken with Bruce Dozier for your information.

Joseph W. Teague, President
Va. Funeral Directors Assoc.
Charlottesville, Va.
804 977-0005